

Code Violations: Take Action!

By Afton Funk and Meredith Anderson-McDonald

As a tenant, it is your right to live in an apartment that is structurally safe, non-hazardous to your health, and doesn't negatively interfere with your quality of life. For example, it is the responsibility of your landlord to provide heat during the cold season (September 15 - June 15) and hot water 365 days a year. Your landlord must also make sure that garbage is being properly disposed of, icy or snow-covered sidewalks taken

care of, and that the building is free of vermin. If you notice any of these problems (or any from the lists below) in your apartment or building, these are called code violations, and it is the responsibility of your landlord to take care of them quickly. Don't hesitate to report any code violations to your landlord immediately. It is also a good idea to send your landlord the complaint in

writing (don't forget to get the letter notarized) so that you will have a record of the complaint in the event that your landlord fails to fix the violation. If your landlord doesn't fix the violation in a reasonable amount of time - or if a problem needs immediate attention to eliminate a health risk - then you can report the violation to the City of Boston Inspectional Services Department (ISD) at (617) 635-5322.

- What are Some Examples of Serious Code Violations?
- Insufficient heat or hot water: In units that are heated by the landlord, the heat must be on from September 15th through June 15th. The temperature cannot be less than 68 degrees Fahrenheit between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. and 64 degrees Fahrenheit between 11:01 p.m. and 6:59 a.m. The maximum temperature cannot reach any higher than 78 degrees.
 - Windows that do not protect

- against cold air/rain water.
- Insect or rodent infestation; landlords are required to exterminate infestations, so notify him/her right away if you experience an infestation.
 - Construction on the building without a permit; all work permits must be posted and visible from the street.
- If you do not see such a permit, this construction is illegal and should be reported immediately. During legal construction,
- CONTINUED PAGE 3



ENGLISH AND CHINESE

FREE

Re-design for Parcel 24

Changes to buildings, park announced; Development Agreement signed

By Christopher Rogacz

Some changes are in store for the proposed development of the site known as Parcel 24 on Hudson Street in Chinatown.

The Asian Community Development Corporation announced some slight design modifications to the buildings and to the proposed park, in an effort to better integrate the structure into the existing environment.

As originally proposed, the bulk of the project would abut Kneeland Street to the north, and would taper downward in a cascading fashion as one moved south down Hudson Street, to better match the height of the townhouses. The design of the Parcel 24 townhouses remains largely the same, with a proposed height of four stories.

In the new design, the movement from taller buildings to shorter ones, keeping in line with the height of surrounding structures, is preserved, but the cascade is replaced with a more staggered design, as can be seen in the picture, right.

Furthermore, the new design, which remains one building, will have three distinct appearances.

"We've had some conversations with the BRA [Boston Redevelopment Authority] where they really wanted to see what they consider a more traditional Boston block, so even though it will be one building, it will have three distinct building masses, so instead of this one building with an articulated rooftop, but something that matches what exists in some of the areas of Boston already."

The redesign also adds square footage to the park, which is situated between the larger structures and the shorter townhouses. By pushing the mass of the building back, the park becomes a more unified space, without an arm of land awkwardly jutting out from the central area of the park.

But perhaps the most significant piece of news regarding Parcel 24 was the signing in late



The new design for the Asian Community Development Corporation's Parcel 24 proposal removes the cascade design of the buildings fronting Kneeland Street, and makes the park space more accessible.

November of a Development Agreement with the MTA, which owned the property as a result of eminent domain to build the Central Artery in the early 1960s.

"What this means is we can get on the site, start doing the testing, and get the ball rolling," said a representative of the developer.

While the development of Parcel 24 is considered important for the future of Chinatown, with the creation of new affordable housing listed as one of the priorities of the Parcel 24 project, its importance stretches beyond the confines of the lot. As development begins to open up in the Chinatown Gateway area, the Parcel 24 project will serve to knit the two areas of land together.

Currently, as a result of decades of sitting next to the Central Artery, Chinatown withers as one approaches the Kneeland Street/Surface Road intersection. The proposal for Parcel 24 hopes to revitalize this area, making it friendly to pedestrian traffic, and bringing more retail outlets to

Kneeland Street.

There will be 5,500 square feet of retail space, 6,050 square feet of community space, 165 underground parking spaces, and just over 10,000 square feet of open space, most of which will be in the park.

The Parcel 24 project will have 50% of its 325 units be affordable, and uses an innovative funding model whereby the revenue generated from the market rate condos will be used to cross-subsidize the affordable housing units.

In 2008, the project will continue the process begun five years ago. On January 8,, 2008, there will be a community meeting to gather input regarding the Project Notification Form. This will be followed by a PNF public hearing. Various permitting workshops will also be held in the community, as well as a Pre-Draft Project Impact Report community meeting later in the year. On the more formal side of the project, 2008 will also see design review by the BRA and MTA.

Interview with a Beijing Principal

Dong Li Speaks with Sampan

By Christopher Rogacz

Dong Li is the principal of the Renhe Middle School in Beijing. As part of a Principal Exchange, he visited Headmaster Jonathan Pizzi at Monument High School in South Boston. Below are his reflections on the differences between Chinese and American education.

How long have you been an educator in China?

I have been a teacher for about 22 years.

What kind of roles have you played (teacher, principal, councilor, etc.)?

First, I was a biology teacher for 10 years. And then I became a school administrator at the middle level in the school system. In 2001, I went to Hope International University in Fullerton, in Los Angeles, California for my MBA, which took me about 18 months to complete.

In 2003, after getting my Masters degree from Hope, I was promoted to Vice-Principal in a high school. Finally, I took my present place in a middle school, which is Renhe Middle school.

What do you enjoy most about being in education?

Students will have a better life after schooling. I love kids actually.

When you came to the US, what were some of your expectations? What were some of your prejudices?

I would like to learn new

CONTINUED PAGE 3

舢舨中文

◎舢舨聚焦：
金豐大酒樓僱員
控訴被僱主壓榨

華埠丹堤達特大
樓前景尚未明瞭

◎舢舨專訪：
北京校長一席談
中美教育有不同

◎舢舨理財：
未雨綢繆巧投資
如何選退休帳戶

◎舢舨健康：
嗜好賭博為病態
應當及時尋幫助

◎舢舨專題：
助您認識糧食券

◎社區簡訊

敬請光臨舢舨網站
www.sampan.org

ah-Lin!

by Lillian Chan



12-19-07

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happy holidays and
have a safe new year ...

holy moly, it's gonna
be 2008 already?!



www.lillianchan.com/ahlin

MIRA Launches New American Fund

The Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition launched the New Americans Fund, which will provide support to sustain MIRA’s operations. MIRA launched the Fund in honor of its 20th anniversary. The organization works to organize and train immigrant leaders, secure the rights and opportunities of immigrants, and educate voters.

Student Essay Contest

The League of Women Voters announces its 9th Annual Online Student Essay Contest – “Making Democracy Work: VOTE 2008.” The contest is open to Massachusetts students in grades 4-12 and to 12-24 year olds in Massachusetts. All contest information is online at www.lwvma.org. The contest deadline

is March 4, 2008. Winners in grades 4-12 will receive US Savings Bonds, and the winner in the 18-24 year old group will receive a \$1,000 prize.

Welcome Baby

The Family Nurturing Center announces the start of Chinese language services for its Welcome Baby program in Allston-Brighton. Welcome Baby is an outreach program for parents with new babies. The program supports new parents at a critical time in their family’s development by increasing their knowledge about what to expect and where to go for help, and links them to needed neighborhood resources. Welcome Baby will make a one-time visit to a family to help educate the new parents, celebrate the new baby with a basket of gifts, and bring books for siblings and parents. For

more information, contact Anne Chen at 617-474-1143 x229.

Register for Primary

Wednesday, January 16 is the last day to register to vote in the Presidential Primary, to be held in Massachusetts on February 5, 2008. Massachusetts will join 22 other states in voting on Super Tuesday, after the Legislature voted to move the Primary from the original date of March 4. For information on how to register, see www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleifv/howreg.htm

Saffron Circle – Call for Grant Applications

Saffron Circle, a giving circle of multi-generational and multi-ethnic Asian-Americans in greater Boston is committed to supporting local organizations that address the needs of the Asian community in

Greater Boston. In its first year, Saffron Circle raised \$15,--- from individual and corporate sponsors to support seven organizations, with grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000. For grant guidelines, visit www.saffroncircle.org. The deadline for proposals is Thursday, January 31, 2008.

Kaji Aso Studio Holiday Store

Through Jan 18, Saturdays 1-4:00 pm, 40 St. Stephen St, Boston. Items priced \$50 or less. Call 617-247-1719.

Correction

“Employees at Saugus Restaurant Allege Labor Abuse,” published in the December 7, 2007 issue of the Sampan, stated the minimum wage for restaurant workers is \$2.60. It is \$2.63. Also, the article implied that confusion

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Subscriptions: \$30/year (3rd class mail); \$60/year (1st class mail). Direct requests to Luan Qin, Ext. 206./ Advertising: \$12 per column inch; \$170 per quarter page; \$300 per half page. Surcharges apply for translation and/or typesetting.

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about who was stealing the tips was one of the causes of the lawsuit. That story, allegedly encouraged by one of the store’s supervisors, not the owner, first surfaced after the lawsuit had been initiated.

Correction

“New Questions on Dainty Dot’s Future,” published in the December 7, 2007 issue of the Sampan, stated the current amount of sunlight blockage on the Chinatown park, as cited in the Mayor’s Task Force memo, at 32.1%. The actual figure in the report is 23.1%.

Clinical Research Study Coordinator
Grade 8/9

The New England College of Optometry is seeking a study coordinator for a clinical research study on myopia in the Chinese population. Study participants are children between the ages of 8 and 12, of Chinese origin, with myopia.

The study is expected to begin enrollment in January 2008. Training on the study protocol and standards of cGCP will occur before the initiation of the study.

Under the direction of the Principal Investigator, the study coordinator is expected to:

- Recruit children and families for screening and enrollment;
- Schedule children for all required visits;
- Function as liaison for study children and their parents;
- Supervise work-study or young research assistants as needed;
- Ensure accurate data entry into appropriate electronic data capture software;
- Ensure accurate record keeping according to federal standards of cGCP;
- Act as liaison with equipment and vendors as required;
- Participate in preparations of papers and presentations.

Requirements:

- Bilingual Cantonese/Mandarin and English or demonstrated success working with Chinese families;
- Demonstrated experience working under protocol guidelines and standards designed for research;
- Strong history of working with 8-12 year olds and their families;
- Excellent organizational skills;
- Strong interest in research;
- Computer proficiency;
- Strong interpersonal skills.

This is a grant dependent, full-time, benefits eligible, exempt position. The expected duration of the study is 18 to 24 months, but may extend to 36 months. To apply, send cover letter and resume to:

Patricia Dahill
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19	2BR	\$996	2-4	60%	\$35,023
3	3BR	\$1,146	3-6	60%	\$40,454

*Maximum Income Per Household Size-Based on Area Median Incomes

HH Size	30%	60%
1	17,700	35,340
2	20,200	40,380
3	22,750	45,420
4	25,250	50,460
5	27,250	54,480
6	29,300	58,560

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Equal Housing Opportunity



FROM PAGE 1

workers can begin work at 7:00 AM, but they must stop their work by 6:00 PM on weekdays (Monday-Friday). If your building is undergoing construction, you may notice that your utilities may be temporarily shut off. Don't be too alarmed, sometimes it is necessary or safer to work that way. However, if your utilities remain shut off for a long period of time, contact your landlord immediately.

Your landlord must provide the following in every apartment:

If any of these services have not been provided by your landlord or do not work properly, this is also considered a code violation, and need to be addressed as soon as possible.

- A working stove and oven.
- A window screen for every window of each apartment unit for the first four floors of apartments. These screens must be in place between April 1st and October 30th.
- A working lock on the entry and exit doors to the unit, as well as every window of the unit. Your landlord may not charge you a fee for any of these locks other than the entry door lock.
- Removal of snow

and ice on sidewalks, entryways, and all exit areas of the building. You landlord is responsible for clearing the walkway and stairs even if he/she does not live in the building. These paths must be cleared within three hours of the end of the snowfall between dawn and dusk.

- Smoke detectors in the common areas of the building, as well as in each apartment unit. In buildings of one or two units, smoke detectors may be battery-operated. Your landlord is responsible for changing the batteries in the common area smoke detectors.
- A clean area surrounding the building (on the property)
- In buildings with three or more apartments, a sufficient amount of durable trash barrels
- If a landlord provides other services such as a refrigerator, window blinds/shades, window safety bars, or laundry facilities, he/she must keep them in good working condition.

Other Code Violations to Look Out For:

Less serious code violations should also be reported to your landlord or ISD.

- Trash being put out too early
- Improper storage of trash
- Littering
- Illegal dumping
- Signs posted in public without proper authority

If you notice something in your building that you think might be a code violation but aren't sure, it's best to play it safe and contact your landlord. Always contact your landlord first, and keep a written record of your requests and the landlord's responses.

If your landlord doesn't take care of the problem, talk to the other residents in your building. They might be experiencing similar problems with your landlord as well. You don't have to act alone in dealing with your landlord—in fact, you might have more power if you act in a group. Forming a tenant association may provide you with the leverage to negotiate a repair plan with the landlord.

Remember: you deserve to live in a healthy, safe environment, and you should feel free to exercise your rights to ensure that this is the case.

The authors are Tufts University students working on a student project for the Chinese Progressive Association, which can be contacted at (617) 357-4499.

Motion Filed for re-trial in 1991 Chinatown Murder Case

By Christopher Rogacz

A motion was filed in Suffolk County Superior Court for a new trial in the case of the Commonwealth v. Nam The Tham. The Commonwealth opposed this motion.

Nam The Tham, along with Siny Van Tran, were each convicted in 2005 on five counts of first-degree murder for the fatal shootings of five men at a Chinatown mahjong game in the early hours of the morning of January 12, 1991. A third suspect remains at-large to this day.

The capture and subsequent conviction of the men was years in the making, and the result of an international effort, combining the resources of national and local law enforcement agencies in both the United States and China.

One of the key pieces of evidence presented in the first trial tying the three suspects together and proving their flight from the country a few weeks after the murders, is being disputed by the defense.

The evidence, a passenger manifest from a United Airlines flight on February 1, 1991, was initially denied into evidence by the presiding Judge Stephen E. Neel on the grounds that it could not be corroborated. This decision was overturned by a justice of the Supreme Judicial Court.

The defense claims the decision to allow the manifest into evidence was erroneous and without proper foundation. They claim that insufficient evidence was presented to establish the trustworthiness of the document, and that there is no way to verify that the names on the manifest are an accurate representation of the people who were actually on the flight that day. For this reason, the defense is requesting a new trial.

The prosecution contends first that it is improper for the court to consider granting a new trial, that the issue at hand is one that is properly decided on appeal. Even if, they go on to argue, one were to entertain the idea of granting a new trial, the decision to allow the manifest into evidence in the first place was properly made, and a proper foundation for its admission laid.

In Massachusetts, first-degree murder convictions are automatically appealed to the Supreme Judicial Court. Both defendants are currently serving five consecutive terms of life imprisonment, plus an additional term of 19.5 – 20 years for the attempted murder of Pak Wing Lee.

FROM PAGE 1



Renhe Middle School District Principal Dong Li visits Monument High School in South Boston, spending time with the football team.

ideas in education and in business.

At first, beginning when I was in LA in 2001, I thought all Americans could be either white or black.

What surprised you the most about the American high school you visited?

Oh, a lot. One building is shared by three high schools. Students have to go through security gate when they get into the building. Parents at lower income classes do not pay much attention to the education of their kids.

What are some of the biggest differences between American and Chinese high schools, in terms of students, what is taught, how it is taught, how discipline is enforced, how the school day is structured, and parental involvement?

In China, students stay in their classroom and teachers go to different classrooms. However in the US, teachers stay and students visit different teachers' rooms.

In China, students mostly—especially in middle school and elementary school—go back home for lunch. Therefore they have almost two hours for a lunch break. But in the US, it is a different story entirely.

As for the content of learning, Chinese educators put too much pressure on academic curriculum, meanwhile ignoring experiences and creativity. In this respect, we should learn from the US.

In China, our school hosts two parental meetings in one school year. In the US, parents go to their kids' school when their kids get into trouble.

My students have to study hard, which derives from Chinese tradition. But things have changed a little bit as a result of the national population policy: one couple can only have one child.

Young parents spoil their only-one-kid too much, like a prince or princess. Besides which, some other things like internet, TV, and video games hurt the younger generation very often.

These things, and some things I did not mention, bring a lot of dif-

ferences to school education. It seems that in some ways, discipline can affect students, but in others it cannot.

How do different conceptions of education influence students' behavior and performance?

We encourage teachers to be a model in front of students. We encourage students to have a dream for their future life. We encourage students to study hard and read often. We encourage students to be respectful to their parents, teachers and classmates, and to people who they do not know.

How can American high schools benefit from the perspective of a Chinese high school principal?

Through interaction between principals from different countries, benefits will flow from each to the other. It was effective that I could stay in a high school of Boston for a whole week. Also, principals can visit me and stay in my school for a whole week.

What lessons should American educators learn from you?

I have been to the US three times. I can speak English. But how many American educators have visited China and can speak Chinese very well? Is it necessary to visit China and learn Chinese? I would ask. That would be the answer.

What were your impressions of American high school students' aspirations? What do your students in China aspire to?

It is a good and difficult question. I guess that American high school kids could be more practical. Some of them want to be a policeman; some of them want to go to the army and some of them are motivated by going to college.

But in China, most of the high school students aspire to pass the national entrance exam and go to a college with a high reputation.

What are your aspirations for your students?

I hope my students will have a better life with an open mind.

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20th c. Master Trickster at MFA

By Christopher Rogacz

20th c. Master Trickster at MFA

By Christopher Rogacz

Zhang Daqian (1899-1983), was truly an artist of the twentieth century in his mastery of artifice, deception, surface, refusal to be identified, trickery of power, and cosmopolitan art producer. That is to claim a lot for one man, but a current exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts, "Zhang Daqian: Painter, Collector, Forger," leaves one with no choice to but acknowledge the long-unnoticed genius of Zhang and his profound ability to prefigure the post-modern realities of the final decades of the last century.

First, a bit of background. Zhang Daqian was born at the tail end of the long 19th century, where political stability was maintained with statecraft's traditional tools of military power and imperial domination. When he was only twelve, Zhang saw the fall of the over-250 year old Qing dynasty, which would usher in a period of instability and uncertainty.

During the Second World War, with Japan occupying portions of China, Zhang retreated to Dunhuang, a remote location in the desert, where from 1941 to 1942 he studied the wall paintings of the area, spending his days in almost non-stop study. To practice his craft, he would copy the ancient artworks, mastering their ancient techniques and, in the process, channeling over a millennium of artistic tradition from the body of the Chinese nation through the body of the artist.

Zhang left China in 1948, never to return, but continued, in the words of the description to one of the paintings, "to believe strongly in the grandeur of the Chinese civilization, despite the predicament of the Chinese state." His later work would be a

cross between nostalgia and a kind of avant-garde.

Zhang was recognized in his time as a great artist. When he came to the MFA in 1953, he was shown a painting bearing his signature, but he did not paint it. To remedy this, Zhang, believing a museum of the MFA's stature ought to have a Zhang Daqian, gave the museum Mount E-mei of Sichuan (1953), which he had recently completed from the memory of his

native Sichuan.

Another time, an art expert is said to have mistaken one of Zhang's practice-replicas for the real thing. From these, a career in forgery was born.

One of his most spectacular forgeries is Drinking and singing at the foot of a precipitous mountain, shown here. Long thought to be a tenth century work by Guan Tang, it was actually painted in 1957. To fool the art experts,

it would not be enough to precisely replicate the brushstrokes on the canvas. Zhang set about setting the painting on silk mounting; he created a history of ownership which he marked on the painting (it was common for owners to apply their signature, or praise, to paintings they owned). It was a history just complete enough to be believable, but sufficiently incomplete to let the mystery corroborate its age.

What all this accomplishes is to place Zhang Daqian as a profound product of the twentieth century. In copying ancient works, Zhang wasn't acting regressive. Instead he was participating in elevating surface above meaning. Think of knock-off handbags: it isn't that it's Coach or Burberry, but that it looks like the real thing. The museum, despite the pretensions of an institution, became the purchaser of an image, in a literal (for itself) and figurative (of itself) sense.

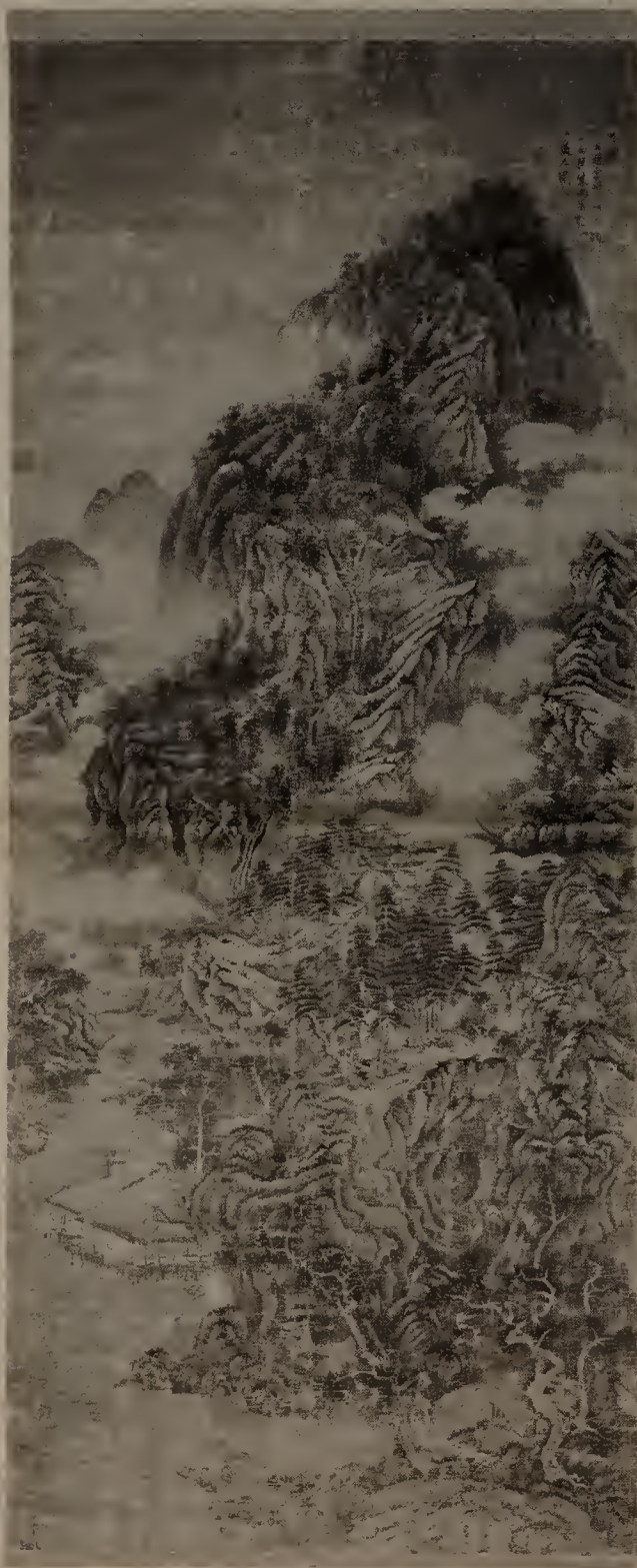
This is the same illusion-as-reality sleight of hand that produced Disneyland, and in the artworld would find reverberations in Warhol's everyday objects, earlier, in Duchamp's Fountain, and in the periodic discovery of "new Pollocks" begging for authentication.

Zhang was not only a forger of works, as the name of the exhibit makes clear, but a collector and painter in his own right as well. And yet, knowing that some of his painting are forgeries begs the question of where does the artist begin and end?

Looking at his collection of artwork, how can we be sure that he has not added himself into it by mixing in his own art and claiming it's the work of someone else? Is this even a more honest approach to the ancient practice of writing one's name on the artwork one owned?

Has Zhang taken this custom and used it to abolish the long stretch of time which separates Imperial China from republican China from Communist China? If the whole national history of Chinese art can exist through Zhang, then a claim is being made about the importance of that tradition to the modern nation that Zhang never saw fit to articulate in an easy or obvious way.

In his later work, particularly in Red Lotus (1983), painting a year before his death, the importance of memory and nationalist continue to inform the artist. What were once vivid landscapes (Mount E-mai), have become formless shadows. And yet from that, new and striking detail stands



Drinking and singing at the foot of a precipitous mountain, 20th century, Zhang Daqian, formerly attributed to Guan Tong (10th century). Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Holiday Shopping Tips

By Michael C. Tow

The holiday season is upon us. A time of gathering with loved ones and friends, enjoying the holiday music and lights, going to the many holiday parties, and of course (most of all) the shopping!

Shopping is one of America's favorite pastime. This year on Black Friday (the day after Thanksgiving), Americans spent about \$20 million on that day alone, and that was just on shopping. My wife Nancy and I drove to the Woodbury Outlets at midnight on Thanksgiving night to take advantage of all the "bargain shopping" as well. What ordinarily should have been a 45 minute drive took over two hours!

We were stuck in bumper to bumper traffic and we still had ten miles to go. Cars were taking twelve minutes to move one mile, which translates into two more hours of driving for those last stretches of road toward our final destination. Fed up, and against the pleading wishes of my wife, I pulled into the median and turned back. After a quick but very frustrating drive back home, we came to the realization that we probably just saved ourselves hundreds of dollars in needless spending.

Needless overspending and getting into debt during the holiday season are common issues that leave many gift-givers still paying off their credit card bills all the way into next year's summer for that underappreciated gift. What can you do to avoid this cycle of debt and overspending?

Here are some helpful tips to prevent needless overspending this holiday season:

1. Create a list. Make a list of everyone you plan to buy a holiday present for this year. If you go to the mall and see a wonderful gift for someone but they're not on the list.... Well, you'll know what to get them for NEXT year.
2. Create a budget. After every name, think of a gift suitable for that person. After the gift, estimate how much you think the gift will cost. If you can't think of a gift or if you have a few in mind, write down the cost of the higher priced gift, or the amount you want to spend on that person. Add up all the numbers and if that number is affordable to you, that is your budget.
3. Don't fall into the trap of opening up a store

charge card. Many stores will offer 10 to 15% off your entire purchase if you open a store charge card. Most people will then tend to buy more. If you don't pay off the card immediately those gifts may end up overall costing twice as much because of the high finance charges.

4. During the year, put aside some money to be used for your holiday shopping. You can take as little as \$5-\$10 (or more) from each paycheck and by the holiday season have a nice amount of money.

5. Buy presents throughout the year and put them aside. Take advantage of the post-holiday sales on presents, holiday cards, and holiday decorations that you could use for next year at significant savings.

6. If you have a big family, do a Yankee swap or Secret Santa with a set budget amongst the adults and buy presents for the children.

I decided to do an informal poll and asked people to give me some of their Holiday shopping tips or thoughts:

"I have a lot of friends, but a limited budget" says Anna, my Operations Manager. "So we made a pact to not exchange gifts, but we'll make a point to get together and spend some quality time instead."

My high school friend Kevin said about his spa gift certificate to his girlfriend, "I forgot to add in tax and gratuity."

And the final tip is from my five year old daughter Alana, "The bigger the present the better!"

If you've taken any of my formal and informal tips and finished your shopping under budget, congratulations! You'll be one step ahead of the game for my next column "New Year Financial Resolutions." Happy Holidays!

If you have questions or topics that you would like me to address in future issues of the Sampan, please send an email or letter to me.

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, Michael Tow is President of New Boston Financial. He is a registered representative of Commonwealth Financial Network- a member firm of FINRA/SIPC. He is located at 58 Harvard Street in Brookline and can be reached at 617-734-4400 or www.newbostonfinancial.com

out in its abstraction: a red lotus, vivid against a timid background, stands in for a vibrant China that spans millennia, even as its stem is barely discernable amongst the cloudy memory — now decades past — Zhang has of his

motherland.

This exhibit is small, only one room, but it's marvelous to be brought into the trick, and refreshing for the MFA to recognize the deception as itself a work of art and putting it on display.

Seasons Greetings



Boston Connects, Inc.

*Strengthening Communities
Empowering People*
Annual Meeting

*Tuesday, January 9, 2008
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.*

The meeting will be held at
Central Elder Services
2315 Washington Street, Dudley Square

This building is handicap accessible
For further information please, call 617-989 9181

Food Stamps

A new immigrated Chinese woman with two children age 8 and 10 lost her husband a few months ago. She worked part-time job with meager income. The income barely covers rent and food. She sought

Household Size	Gross Monthly Income	Net Monthly Income	Maximum Monthly Allotment
1	1,107	851	162
2	1,484	1,141	298
3	1,861	1,431	426
4	2,238	1,721	542
5	2,615	2,011	643
6	2,992	2,301	772
7	3,369	2,591	853
8	3,746	2,881	975

assistance with the program at Asian American Civic Association. With the help from program staff, she filed an application for food stamp and public housing too.

Within a few weeks, she received \$298 worth of food stamp benefits. This benefits helped her and her family to live much better.

The Food Stamp Program (FSP) is one of the

government’s main nutrition assistance programs. Its goal is to improve the nutrition conditions of low-income persons. Through issuing food stamps it seeks to provide needy persons with a healthy diet and nutrition education. This program provides support for needy households and to those making the transition from welfare to work.

Persons applying for food stamps must meet eligibility requirements. This information will be examined and verified by the local food stamp office. The major eligibility requirements are as follows:

- The applicant’s household may have no more than \$2,000 in countable resources, such as a bank account. But if the household includes elderly persons above the age of 60 or disabled persons, they may have up to \$3,000 in countable resources.
 - Certain types of property, such as home and lot, are not considered countable resources.
 - Applicant has to meet the income guideline.
 - Most able-bodied adult household members must meet certain work requirements.
 - All applicants must have a Social Security number. For the people in the household do not want to join the program have to provide their financial information as well.
- If you need to apply for food stamps, go to your local food stamp office and fill out an application. You have the right to submit the application on the same day. If you are unable to go to the office due to

transportation difficulties, you may contact the office by telephone, request that they send the application to you by mail, and mail it back to the office once you have completed it. After the office has received your application, they will schedule an interview with you. Please take note: if you qualify for food stamps, the food stamp office will determine the first month’s benefits based on the number of days remaining in the month after receipt of your application. Therefore, applicants should complete and return their application forms as soon as possible.

Eligible households are issued a monthly allotment of food stamps based on the Thrifty Food Plan. The Thrifty Food Plan is based on the National Academy of Sciences’ Recommended Dietary Allowances and on food choices of low-income households.

The total income, before tax or other subtractions, is call gross income. However, program allows certain subtractions from the gross income, call deductions. For examples: housing costs, child support payment, medical

expenses over \$35 a month for elderly or disable people, or child-care costs. The amount left over after these deductions is called net income.

Most of the households have to meet both gross income and net income limits. But household has a person who is 60 or

Some restaurants are authorized to accept food stamps from homeless, elderly, or disabled people in exchange for low-cost meals. However, food stamps absolutely may not be traded for cash.

Food stamp applicants must fill out their forms accurately. Persons who

Permissible:	Impermissible:
Breads and cereals	Alcohol and tobacco products
Fruits and vegetables	Vitamins and medicines
Meat, fish, and poultry	Food that will be eaten in the store
Dairy products	Hot foods
Seeds and plants which produce food for the household to eat	Pet foods, soaps, paper products, and household supplies

older or who is disabled, has to meet the net income limit. People on SSI or TANF do not need to meet any of the income limits.

Please consult the table below for the income guideline and monthly food stamp allotments based on household size.

Not all food products may be purchased with food stamps. Permissible and impermissible products are listed below.

report false information on their applications and retailers that engage in food stamp fraud will not only lose their eligibility to receive/redeem food stamps but also run the risk of fine and imprisonment.

For more information, please come to Asian American Civic Association at 87 Tyler Street 5/fl Boston, MA 02111 or call 617-426-9492 for enquiries.

The Impact of Gambling on Mental Health

By John Yung

More money is spent wagering in the U.S. on gambling than on movies, concerts, sporting events and amusement parks combined. Gambling has become America’s favorite pastime, but what about the consequences of gambling on mental health? A recent study has estimated the prevalence of pathological gambling in the U.S. to be 0.8% to 1.9%, with an additional 1.3% to 3.6% classified as problem gamblers. As Massachusetts determines how to further legalize gambling, one important consideration is the personal impact of gambling disorders on individuals.

According to the UCLA Gambling Studies Program, problem gambling includes all gambling behavior patterns that compromise, disrupt or damage personal, family or vocational pursuits. The essential features are increasing preoccupation with gambling, a need to bet more money more frequently, restlessness or irritability when attempting to stop, “chasing” losses, and loss of control in spite of mounting, serious, and negative consequences.

Problem gambling can manifest itself in real biological symptoms which may include fatigue, insomnia, minor respiratory ailments, intestinal distress, migraine headaches, high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease according to several studies.

Pathologic gambling is a more severe form of problem gambling. The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disor-

ders has defined a set of criteria for “pathologic gambling” that leads to consistent and recurrent maladaptive behavioral. Pathologic gambling can often lead to bankruptcy, loss of family and career, and even suicide.

According to one study, people with pathologic or problem gambling compared with nongamblers are 3.3 times as likely to report ever having experienced major depression, 3.5 times more likely to report schizophrenia, 2.3 times more likely to report phobias, 6.1 times more likely to report anti-social personality, 3.3 times more likely to report current or past alcohol abuse or dependence and 2.1 times more likely to report current or past nicotine dependence.

There is considerable debate on whether pathologic gambling has a genetic or biological cause. The symptoms of a gambling addiction are very similar to substance addiction. Both disorders have anticipatory cravings, tolerance, withdrawal symptoms, and chronic relapses. A few studies have shown gambling linked to the neurotransmitters serotonin and dopamine in the body.

Psychological intervention is the most common treatment for pathologic gambling. Since many gamblers have beliefs that the outcome of a game can be controlled, treatment begins by overcoming these irrational thoughts.

For most casino games, success is based

on luck and not skill, and patients must first understand that they are not in control. The goal of counseling is to restore a patient’s normal way of thinking similar to how patients are treated for depression or alcoholism. Pharmacotherapy is usually not recommended unless to treat a comorbid condition.

While Asians and Asian-Americans have not been shown in any epidemiological study to be linked with more gambling disorders, anecdotal evidence can be seen by the high number of Asian players at card rooms and casinos possibly indicating a connection. Massachusetts casinos have specifically targeted Asians for business. The Mohegan Sun has a 25-person Asian American marketing department. Catering to the Asian customer is common in Las Vegas and other regional casinos. One California card room estimates 80% of its customers are Asian.

Many Asian cultures consider gambling to be socially acceptable; games are often played with family and friends on special occasions. Moreover, Asian immigrants can more easily understand the games without overcoming language barriers associated with other forms of entertainment. Gambling can provide many positive attributes such as socializing especially among elders. However, for some individuals the lines are blurred between entertainment and compulsion. One study reports the high

of winning may release endogenous opioid peptides and cause a “natural addiction” similar to sexual addiction or overeating disorders.

To help deal with the gambling issues in the Asian community, the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling has appointed Chien-Chi Huang as the Asian Community Program Specialist. The organization has sponsored training workshops case for clinicians and counselors who can speak target languages to provide proper treatment. The organization also plans a media campaign including MBTA posters, advertisements in Chinese newspapers, and public service announcements.

One simple method to investigate for problematic or pathologic gambling is the LIE/BET questionnaire.

- Have you ever had to lie to people important to you about how much you gambled?
- Have you ever felt a need to bet more money?

Answering yes to any of these questions should lead to further study of additional criteria for problem or pathologic gambling.

The Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling phone number for support with gambling related health issues is 1-800-426-1234.

This article funded through the Asian Health Initiative of Tufts-New England Medical Center.

submit articles to the

sampan.

617.426.9492x207

englisheditor@sampan.org

BHCC

www.bhcc.mass.edu

Bunker Hill Community College


Clinical Placement Coordinator

(Senior Special Programs Coordinator)

Allied Health Certificate Programs

Please visit our website at www.bhcc.mass.edu to access the full position description and application procedure. Go to the Community & Visitors tab on the homepage and select Human Resources.

Bunker Hill Community College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, people of color, persons with disabilities and others are strongly encouraged to apply.

Bunker Hill Community College

imagine the possibilities

Detail oriented person needed for light fabric assembly production line work in downtown Boston. Mon-Fri, 9-5, starting pay 10/hour.

Call 617-670-3547

Elementary Principal Openings

Newton Public Schools

Newton, Massachusetts

Angier Elementary School

Franklin Elementary School

Lincoln-Eliot Elementary School

Newton Public Schools is a full-inclusion school system serving over 11,500 students in fifteen elementary (K-5), four middle (6-8), and two high schools (9-12). Newton's educational philosophy includes a strong commitment to academic excellence, respect for human differences, quality professional development and high levels of communication among students, staff, parents and community. We are seeking highly qualified administrators to join us for 2008-09 school year.

These positions require a Principal's License, a Master's Degree or equivalent, and five or more years of teaching/administrative experience.

Application Deadline is: January 24, 2008

Apply via our website:

www.newton.k12.ma.us

We encourage applications from candidates who have a strong commitment to active anti-racism. AA/EOE

Holiday

“Christmas Eve Candlelight Musical Service.”

Monday, December 24
Musical prelude of seasonal music by Yi-Hui Wu, soprano; Emily Romney, mezzo soprano; Kenneth Harmon, tenor; and Athan Mantalos, baritone; with Daniel Lamoureux, organ and piano.
Swedenborg Chapel, 50 Quincy St.
4:45 p.m.
Free and open to the public.
(617) 864-4552.

Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association Workshop

Monday, December 31
1:00p to 5:00p
at Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA
Held in Exhibit Hall C.. Along with artists, create your own decorative firecrackers, lanterns and dough figurines during the Family Festival.

Chu Ling Dance Academy ‘Love Triumphs’

Monday, December 31
1:30p to 2:00p
at Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA
Held in Exhibit Hall C.. This renowned Asian-American company performs all new pieces featuring dancers of all ages from the Academy, together with multiracial cast of professional dancers and musicians, including both traditional Chinese folk dances and contempo-

rary creative dance.

“Gala New Years Eve Concert.”

Mon., Dec. 31
Boston Baroque Orchestra; with Christina Day Martinson, violin; Amanda Forsythe, soprano; March Schachman, oboe; and conductor Martin Pearlman. Program includes Vivaldi, Rebel, and Bach. Sanders Theatre, Harvard University
8:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$69/\$56/\$43/\$29
Harvard Box Office (617) 496-2222.

“First Day Concert.”

Tuesday, Jan. 1
Boston Baroque Orchestra; with Christina Day Martinson, violin; Amanda Forsythe, soprano; March Schachman, oboe; and conductor Martin Pearlman. Program includes Vivaldi, Rebel, and Bach. Sanders Theatre, Harvard University
3:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$69/\$56/\$43/\$29
Harvard Box Office (617) 496-2222.

Music

“Gamelanathon!”

Wednesday, Jan. 9
Gamelan studio, lower main floor, Hilles, Harvard University
8:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.
Free food and music. All visitors are welcome to try out the gongs, drums, and chimes that make up the ensemble. No previous

musical experience required. For more information on this event and open rehearsals for next term, e-mail diamond2@fas.harvard.edu.

Exhibits

Peabody Museum

The Peabody Museum is located at 11 Divinity Ave. Open daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$9 for adults; \$7 for senior citizens and students; \$6 for children 3 to 18 years old; free for children under 3 years old. Free admission (for Massachusetts residents only) on Sun. mornings 9 a.m.-noon, except for groups, and free admission on Wed. afternoons, Sept.-May, 3-5 p.m. The Peabody Museum is closed Jan. 1, Thanksgiving Day, Dec. 24, and Dec. 25. (617) 496-1027, <http://www.peabody.harvard.edu>.

“A Good Type: Tourism and Science in Early Japanese Photographs” presents 46 compelling images of Japanese photographic prints, many hand-colored, that were produced for the tourist trade in the late nineteenth century. (Through April 30)

“Pacific Islands Hall” features a diverse array of artifacts brought to the museum by Boston’s maritime trade merchants. (Ongoing)

Peabody Essex

Museum

‘Perfect Imbalance: Exploring Chinese Aesthetics’

Features objects that date from the Neolithic era to 2004 including paintings, jade, textiles, porcelain and prints.
East India Square
161 Essex Street
Salem, MA 01970-3783
Phone: 978-745-9500, 866-745-1876
Open daily 10 A.M.-5 P.M.
Adults \$13, Seniors \$11, Students \$9
Youth (16 and under) and Salem, Mass. residents admitted free.

Museum of Fine Arts “Zhang Daqian: Painter, Collector, Forger”

Tells the story of Chinese artist Zhang Daqian’s (1899–1983) career through the lens of the MFA’s collection. All of the works on view were either owned, painted, or forged by Zhang—a talented artist who was passionate about tradition but driven to innovate, and deceive. Among the 20 works are two forgeries, once believed by the MFA to be centuries older, and now attributed to Zhang. Monday and Tuesday 10 am-4:45 pm
Wednesday-Friday 10 am-9:45 pm
Saturday and Sunday 10 am-4:45 pm
Tickets: Members FREE, Adults \$17, Seniors and Students 18 and older \$15, Youths 7-17 \$6.50, Youths 6 and under FREE

Quad Library, Harvard “Stewarding the Hilles Library Collection: The Harvard College Library Gifts 140,000 Volumes to China.”

Words and pictures that record the long journey of Hilles’ books to the library of Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, PRC. (Through Jan. 23)

Sackler Museum

“A Tradition Redefined: Modern and Contemporary Chinese Ink Paintings from the Chu-ting Li Collection, 1950-2000.”

Is a traveling exhibition of 63 works drawn entirely from the collection of Chu-ting Li – the finest and most comprehensive of its kind in the West. The exhibit demonstrates the dramatic evolution of Chinese ink painting in recent time and lays a foundation for understanding the international-style work that is being created in China today. (Through Jan. 27, 2008)

“Downtime”

Features a selection of Chinese ceramics from the Tang (618-907) through the Qing (1644-1911) dynasties. Four contemporary Chinese paintings will join the ceramics and serve as a small companion exhibition to “A Tradition Redefined.” (Through Jan. 27, 2008)

BUAG at the Stone Gallery

Chikanobu: Modernity and Nostalgia in Japanese Prints

Exhibit examining the 30-year career of Yoshu Chikanobu, one of Japan’s most popular and prolific woodblock print designers. It is the first exhibit to comprehensively examine the career of this artist, featuring 50 prints documenting his advocacy for modernization in the 1880s, before turning to promote traditional Japanese values in the 1890s. On display Nov. 16, 2007 through Jan. 13, 2008. Closed Dec. 22 through Jan. 1.

Wednesday, Jan 2, 2008 at 10:00am until 5:00pm on Wednesday, Jan 2, 2008
Repeats on every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday each week until Fri Jan. 11th, 2008
855 Commonwealth Avenue
Open to General Public
Admission is free

Brush Art Gallery and Studios

Laos Transpired Art Series

Through January 13, 2008
Contemporary woks from the Laotian Diaspora, including textiles of Prince Somsanith Nithikone and visual artist, Mali Kounchao, are featured in this rare collection of diverse voices, capturing the Laotian refugee experience. 256 Market Street, Lowell 978-459-7819
www.thebrush.org
Gallery Hours:
Nov-Dec: Tue-Sat, 11am-4pm, Sun 12noon-4pm
Jan: Wed-Sun, 12noon-4pm.

Martial Arts

Cultivate More Energy - Pa-Kua, Martial Art of Circle Walking

Mondays and Thursdays, 7:30p to 8:30p
at The American Jiann Shyong Kung Fu Center, 616 Cambridge St, Cambridge, MA
Pa-Kua is a martial arts system consisting of evasive circular steps combined with the use of the open hand or palm.

Tai Chi in Boston Traditional Yang Style Tai Chi Chuan

Taught as a Martial Art by Teacher with 40+ Years of Exp. Teaching
Wednesdays and Saturdays, 6:30p to 7:30p
at The American Jiann Shyong Kung Fu Center, 616 Cambridge St Cambridge, MA
Despite its soft movement, Yang style Tai Chi contains all of the elements of a powerful martial art. Master Lin-Lin Harn has taught martial arts for more than 40 years.

Culture

East Meets Words: Asian American Open Mic

Series

Friday, January 11 8:00 pm
East Meets West Bookstore, 934 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge (between Central and Harvard Squares)
“East Meets Words” is the only Asian-American open mic series in New England, taking place the second Friday of every month. A local institution since March 2005, all you need to participate is a voice or an ear. Come by and share some of your secrets and soul. January’s open mic feature is Cynthia Lin. Admission: \$3
All ages welcomed. For info, visit www.bostonprogress.org

Chinese Cooking Demonstration

Saturday, January 26 (2008) 1:00p to 2:30p
at Weston Public Library, Weston, MA
Frances Srulowitz, a former instructor of Chinese cooking at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education prepares several dishes and talks about ingredients and cooking techniques. This program is free and open to all adults. Register at the reference desk or call (781) 893-3312 x3 for information. Snow date Feb. 2, 2008.

Performance

NTDTV’s Chinese New Year Spectacular

January 10-12, 2008
Combining Western and Chinese instrumentation, this is a touring performance of classical Chinese Dance. Program in English and Chinese.
Tickets: \$38-120
Location: Opera House, Washington Street
www.shows.ntdtv.com
617-848-2996
800-954-4606

Three Sopranos

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall
Guang Yang, Guiping Deng, and Mewas Lin
Tickets: \$10-35
www.ChinesePerformingArts.net
617-585-1260
617-451-1309

Golden Dragon Acrobats

January 13, 2008
Symphony Hall
From death-defying pole drops to masterful jugglers, from men perched atop a 30-foot stack of chairs to stunning displays of muscular martial artists, the Golden Dragon Acrobats make their Boston debut
Tickets: \$47-58
617-482-6661
www.celebrityseries.org

Greater Boston Dance Celebration

Sponsored by Chinese Cultural Connection
January 19, 2008 1:00PM and 7:00PM
Regis College
Weston, MA
Tickets: \$15-50
978-621-3758
www.chinesecultureconnection.org



Our **BEST** work is done out in the community. During 2007, we have been proud to support some of the area’s leading community-based and diverse professional organizations like Bottom Line, the Latino Professional Network, the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts and the Asian American Civic Association. We join them in their quest to make Boston a better place to live and work.

Professional Staffing Group values the vitality and strength of a diverse workforce. People from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Professional Staffing Group

617-250-1000 or www.psgstaffing.com

社區簡訊

爲找不到亞洲藝文活動而煩惱嗎？請至舫舫網站www.SAMPAN.org查詢波士頓地區更多的藝文活動。

學習講座

華美福利會
網上ESL課程開始招生

需要學習英語卻沒有時間上課？現在您可以在自己的時間自由安排學習——上網參加ESL課程。

華美福利會 (AACA)開辦的網上ESL課程新近開始招生。這個網上課程專門爲因爲工作或者家庭原因不能參加普通ESL課程的移民而辦。但是這個課程並不適合ESL課程的初級學生。參加此課程的學生還必須能熟練運用電腦。

參加網上ESL課程的學生可以在家裏，或者是其他能上網的地方上課來提高自己的英文閱讀、寫作以及聽說能力。學生們也可以根據自己的實際情況來決定課程進度。他們也可能通過電話、電郵、網上視頻或者當面約見的方式來與老師溝通。

華美福利會將於二零零八年一月四日上午八時三十分在泰勒街87號4樓414室舉行詳細的說明會。並會於一月晚些時候再舉行一個晚間的說明會。欲知更多資訊或申請該課程請電郵Diana Satin，dsatin@aaca-boston.org。

海外僑生申請赴台升讀大學
第一梯次招生作業2008年2月放榜；第二梯次自2008年2月1日起至2月28日止，2008年6月放榜；僑生僅限擇一梯次申請。
有興趣申請之青年學子可於該聯招會網頁(http://www.overseas.ncnu.edu.tw)下載簡章規定及報名表格。校係志願卡可至本中心領取。

波士頓華僑文教中心報名。電話： 617-965-8801，傳真： 617-965-8815，地址： 90 Lincoln Street, Newton Highlands, MA 02461。

95 Commercial St Braintree, MA 02184

(781) 848-3678

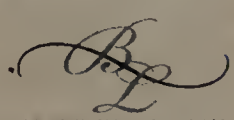
華人前進會
工人互助中心
你做建築、超市、餐館工嗎？
無論你是那種行業
工作上有問題嗎？
請來跟工友們認識和討論
工作上的權益！

工資問題：最低和超時工資、小費、報稅等
逢星期一，上午10時 - 12時

其他問題：歧視、騷擾、非法解僱、工會等
逢星期二，上午11時 - 下午1時

工作安全：因工受傷、工傷賠償
逢星期三，上午10時 - 12時
・法律下的權益
・聯絡律師
・認識各人的經驗，互相幫助
・關於移民工人的新聞和資訊
・組織的權益
華人前進會
28 Ash Street (雅術街)
Boston, MA 02111
欲知詳情請電：（617）357-4499

活動消息

碧樹長青中心舉辦

BRAINTREE LANDING
社區討論午餐會
話題：
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輔助下的生活
2008年2月
心血管健康
地點：
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95 Commercial Street, Braintree
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95 Commercial Street，Braintree的碧樹長青中心（ Braintree Landing Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center）致力於提供最好的護理服務。該中心提供復員治療以及對個人提供特殊照顧。更多資訊請電(781)848-3678。

2008年耆老照顧計劃教育講座
于昆士市華樂耆年中心舉辦

由2008年一月開始，每月一次免費耆老照顧計劃講座
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講座題目:善終服務
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安寧療護
長期護理
康復服務
其他長者健康及照顧問題
英文講座，中文翻譯。
詳情或登記報名，請聯系關小姐，電話 (617) 471-9354。
由碧樹長青中心和亞美社會服務協會華樂耆年中心聯合舉辦

文娛表演

由中華表演藝術基金會舉辦
一月十二日 週六
晚上八時
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三位女高音表演



Guang Yang 楊光



Guiping Deng 鄧桂萍



Mewas Lin 林惠珍

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B. 2/3 and 2/4/2008
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at Boston University

C. 2/5/2008
Emmanuel Church
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4/5/2008, 8 PM:
NEC’s Jordan Hall
Bion Tsang 章雨亭,
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5/10/2008, 8 PM:
John Hancock Hall
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4/15/2008:
The 17th Annual All-American Youth
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國畫書法比賽

8/1 to 8/22/2008:
The 17th Annual Music Festival at Walnut Hill
第十七屆胡桃山音樂營

紐英崙中華專業人員協會將於新年一月五日星期六舉辦第九次「文化之旅」參觀哈佛大學薩克勒美術館 (Arthur M. Sackler Museum)。

本次主題是美術館特展「傳統的再定義：現代與當代中國水墨畫李鐫晉收藏展1950-2000」。這次

展出的35位畫家的63件作品，全是前堪薩斯大學藝術系教授李鐫晉的私人收藏。畫家們來自中國、香港、台灣、歐美，各自受到不同創作背景、政治社會、生活環境的影響，發展的方向也不同，是近五十年來中國水墨畫風格轉變的回顧。將兩岸三地及海外華人畫家多元的水墨畫風格呈現一堂，也是前所未有的。很多作品是第一次在西方展出。

參觀人數限二十五人，活動公開，歡迎參加。

哈佛大學教授學生免費，中華專業人員協會會員及學生每人五元，其他人士每人十元。在門口付款。

當日行程如下：一時四十五分在美術館門口集合；二至三時半由本次展覽的主要負責人之一 Melissa Moy女士以英語導覽解說；三時半至四時自由參觀美術館珍藏的中國古畫玉器及佛相雕刻品。

該館不久將關閉整修數年。這些珍貴的佛雕何年再現還是未知數。

薩克勒美術館 (485 Broadway, Cambridge, MA) 位於Broadway 及Quincy Street交口處，在Fogg Art Museum 對面。

有興趣者請在十二月三十一日前用Email或電話向譚嘉陵報(Cathy Chan) 名，JiaLinTan@verizon.net，電話：(781) 259-8195，傳真：(781) 259-9147。報名者請提供Email、及手機號碼以便當日連絡，並請註明參加人數。

新唐人新年晚會波士頓場將於1月10日-12日在波士頓歌劇院上演（Opera House, 539 Washington Street, Boston）。

一年一度的新唐人新年晚會正日益成爲世界性的慶典，2008年的晚會規模更大，內容編排更精彩。

耳目一新的天幕，華美高貴的服飾，出神入化的中國舞，國際一流的演出，帶您穿越時空，使您終身難忘。西洋管弦樂器與中國傳統樂器結合大型交響樂隊的伴奏，完美表達天音之悅。

演出時間：
1月10日星期四 晚7：30
1月11日星期五下午2：00
和晚7：30
1月12日下午2：00

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神韻紐約藝術團
藝術團以開創與找回人類的正傳文化爲根本，所以創作和演出的節目中都是以正統人類文化、神傳文化爲主，要求以純善純美的節目奉獻給觀眾。

展覽活動



一月三十日，波士頓藝術博物館將”舉辦現代生活之節奏:1914-1939英倫印刷”展覽。

展覽中將有十四位才氣卓越的藝術家的超過百幅的作品。

展覽作品從對全機械化的藝術印象到多彩的爵士時代的速度、運動以及各種分類之印象不一而足。

大約有四分之三的展出作品是來自紐約的首藏者Johanna 以及Leslie Garfield 的收藏，由波士頓藝術館協同大都會博物館組織展出。

該展覽將從一月三十日開展，二零零八年六月一日結束。

請將中文活動資訊電郵至 yang@aaca-boston.org，並在標題標明“社區簡訊”。請在來信中列明活動費用、聯繫電話以及網站資訊以便公眾查詢。十八歲以下人士需要征得監護人同意才可刊登資訊，並需要在電郵中附上監護人聯繫資訊。

阿玲一年多前與丈夫及兩名分別10歲及8歲的孩子

移民到美國。不幸的在數月前，丈夫患上急病去世。一直以丈夫收入爲主的阿玲，面對家庭帶來的巨變，令她肩負起外出工作養家的責任。

因不懂英語的關係，阿玲只找到一份收入微薄的半職工作。她工作的收入僅可應付房租及基本的食物。

於是她到華美福利會求助。

該會的職員幫助阿玲申請糧食倦及公屋等福利。

數星期後，阿玲獲批准 \$298的糧食倦福利。她的生活亦可以立即得到改善。

糧食券項目(Food Stamp Program) 是聯邦

食物援助項目中的一項主要項目，於1977年設立，目的在於改善低收入者營養狀況。

通過發放食物券購買食物對需要者提供幫助，並盡可能提供營養教育。

該項目爲有需要的家庭及向一些由依靠政府援助的人仕在找到工作之前的過渡期間提供支援。

申請糧食券的家庭需要符合申請條件。所提供的資料是會由負表審批的機構予以調查及核實。申請的條件如下：

申請人的家庭的可計算的資產不能超過二千元，例如銀行存款；但如果家中有六十歲或以上耆英或傷殘人仕，其可計算的資產則不能超過三千元。

某些資產如自住的房屋是不會被視爲可計算的資產。

符合家庭總收入上限。

家庭中大部份具有工作能力的成年人需符合某些工作要求。

申請人必須用工咭號碼申請糧食券福利。但並非每一個家庭成員都在申請名單內，不想申請之家庭成員可免除提供社會安全號碼，但仍須提供收入及資產的資料。

若需要申請糧食券，可到你居住地的糧食券部門索取並填妥申請表格，你有權即日填妥並交回申請表。

如你因交通問題而不能前往索取申請表，可致

電該部門並要求他們將申請表郵寄給你，填妥後再寄回給該部門。

他們在收到你的申請表格後會約你前往會面。

有一點請記住，就是若申請人符合資格；第一個月的糧食券是會由有關部門收到該申請表格當日開始計算，按該月份剩餘的日子來發放。因此之故，申請人應儘快將申請表填妥交回。

符合資格的家庭將會查由處理糧食券的部門按“經濟食物計劃”的準則來批出每月的糧食券金額。

“經濟食物計劃”是建基於國家科學學院所建議的“正當飲食所需”及低收入家庭的食物選擇而

訂定的。申請人的家庭總收入，即未有扣除任何項目的稅前收入。稅前收入扣除項目包括房屋，養兒費，超出\$35之老年人/傷殘人士的醫療費及托兒費等，稱爲淨薪。

一般的申請人士須符合稅前收入及淨薪的收入標準，但60歲及傷殘人士之家庭祇須符淨薪收入標準,而領取聯邦福利金(SSI)及麻卅福利金(TANF)的家庭可免除收入上限。

請參看附圖一所列出的收入上限及可得糧食券的比對。

申請人在獲發糧食券後並不是甚麼東西都可用糧食券來購買，其可買及不可買的食品請見下附圖

二。但是，某些獲授權的餐室可接受一些無家可歸者、長者、傷殘人仕等以糧食券來購買一些平價食物。

但是使用糧食券的人仕絕不能利用糧食券來和他人兌換現金。

有需要申請糧食券時必需據實填報申請資料。如填報虛假資料來獲得糧食券福利，或獲授權接受糧食券的商號有作弊的情況，一旦被有關當局查到時，除了會被取消領取 / 接受糧食券的資格外，還會被罰款，或繫獄。切勿爲貪小利而失大。

有興趣人士可向華美福利會查詢。地址：波士頓華埠泰勒街87號。電話：617- 426-9492。

(附圖一)

家庭人數	每月稅前收入	每月淨薪	最高每月福利
1	1,107	851	162
2	1,484	1,141	298
3	1,861	1,431	426
4	2,238	1,721	542
5	2,615	2,011	643
6	2,992	2,301	772
7	3,369	2,591	853
8	3,746	2,881	975

(附圖二)

可購買	不可購買
麵包及麥片類	酒類及煙草類產品
水果及蔬菜	維他命丸和藥物
肉類、魚類、及家禽	可即時食用的食物
奶類	熱的食物
能生產食品予家庭食用的種子及植物	寵物食品、肥皂、紙類產品及家庭用品

何謂食物券計劃？

食物券計劃幫助低收入或無收入之家庭買到營養食物。食物券並非現金。食物券看上去像電子卡，猶如您用來買食物的銀行卡。大多數雜貨鋪都收食物券。

我有資格得到食物券福利嗎？

根據您的收入和經濟來源，譬如存款，決定您是否有資格得到食物券福利。諸如您的住房之類的財產，不作爲經濟來源。

在某些州，至少有一輛車不作爲經濟來源。

對於老人與殘障人士尚有特殊之規定。

倘若您有資格，您能得到食物券的金額則取決於您家庭的人口數。

若要知道更多資訊，請找您當地負責食物券的官員。

知道自己是否有資格享受食物券福利的一個方法是上網查尋，網址爲：

www.foodstamps-step1.usda.gov。

回答提出的問題後您就可以知道自己是否具有資格以及能夠得到多少金額之食物券。但是您必須提出申請，方能確切知道。

如何申請食物券福利？

倘若您想申請，您則需要：

• 打電話或到當地食物券發放辦事處獲取申請表，或者造訪：www.fns.usda.gov/fsp 獲取您所在州的申請表。

• 儘量填全申請表。填寫您的姓名、地址並簽名。

• 透過網上、郵寄、傳真或親自登門的方法，將填妥之申請表送至當地辦事處。

• 接受一次約談。約談可以透過電話進行，或

者您可以讓朋友或親戚到您的住所。

• 向當地辦事處官員出示諸如付款存根、房租或房屋分期付款單據、水電費帳單、孩子或老人護理帳單以及撫養孩子的法院命令等文件。

當地辦事處官員會告訴您什麼文件及其他資訊您需向他們出示。

審閱了您的申請表後，當地辦事處工作人員會告訴您，您是否具有資格以及您將得到的金額數。

如何找到當地辦事處？

如果您需要幫您找到您的當地食物券發放辦事處，請打電話至 1-800-221-5689 或造訪：http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp。

我需要有社會安全號嗎？

是的，倘若您想要得

糧食券問與答

到食物券福利，您必須要有社會安全號。並非您家中的所有人都必須參加該計劃。不想要食物券的人則不必提供社會安全號。但是他們務必提供他們的金融資訊。

食物券計劃先得要確定我是否身患殘疾嗎？

不要。但你目前必須是以喪失視力或身體有殘疾的身份接受某一計劃提供的補助或援助以證明你的資格，例如醫療補助等。

我不是美國公民，可以領取食物券嗎？

如果你是合法的永久居留者，并且你、你的配偶、或者你的父母有在美國的工作記錄，你可能現在就符合條件領取食物券（食物券辦事處能替你確定你在美國工作的時間是否達到規定的時限）。

以難民或另外几种移民

身份來美國的人也可能符合條件。如果你在1996年8月22日在美國合法居住，并且(1)你當時已經65歲（1931年8月22日或之前出生），或者(2)你現在在領取殘疾補償，或者(3)你現在不滿18歲，你也可能符合條件。

如果你以符合规定的身份在美國已居住滿5年，你也可能具備領取食物券的資格。

假如我不是符合條件的移民，我可以替已獲得美國公民權的孩子領取食物券嗎？

可以。當你替孩子或者家庭里其他符合條件的

成員提出申請時，你不必提供有關你自己的文件。

但是，你仍然要出示你的收入和收入來源證明，以便工作人員確定他們應得的食物券金額。

如果我想成爲美國公民，領取食物券是否會對我不利？

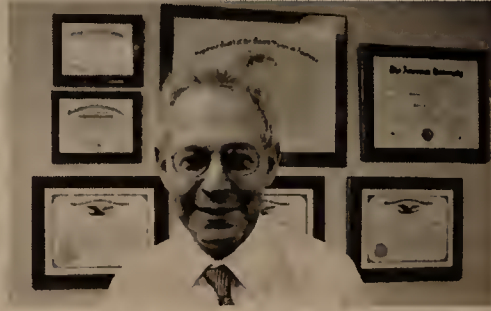
不會。接受食物券不會使移民成爲“需要政府救濟的人”，也就是說一個美國移民不會因爲領取食物券而被驅逐出境，被拒絕進入美國，或者被拒絕獲取永久居留權或“綠卡”。

以上信息來自USDA網站

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美國人用在賭博上的錢比他們用在電影、音樂會、運動事件和遊樂園的錢的總和要多。

賭博已經變成美國人最喜愛娛樂，但到底賭博對人們心理健康的影響有多大呢？

最近的一個研究指出，這些賭博大約 0.8% 到 1.9% 是病態的，問題賭徒大約占參與賭博活動總人數的 1.3% 到 3.6%。麻州決定更進一步地使賭博合法化，其中重要原因之一是賭博僅僅影響個人。

加利福尼亞州立大學洛杉磯分校賭博研究計畫指出，問題賭博包括全部的賭博行為，危害巨大，可以使家庭破裂，甚至個人失業。

有賭博問題的人會全神貫注地賭博，賭注會越

來越大。當他們企圖停止賭博的時候，會出現慌張，煩躁不安，失控等嚴重的負面影響。

根據個別的研究證明，問題賭博可以引起生理病症，例如疲勞、失眠、輔修呼吸系統疾病、腸痛、偏頭痛、高血壓和心血管疾病。病態賭博是更加嚴重的問題賭博。

根據診斷和統計，病態賭博經定義為一種精神病。病態賭博可以導致有賭博問題的人破產，失去家人和工作，甚至自殺。根據一研究，病態賭徒與問題賭徒人相比更多可能報告精神分裂症、恐怖症、或通過酒精濫用或依賴和煙鹼依賴。

根據研究，病態賭博

賭博影響人心

撰文 John Yung

Funded by New England Medical Center

是由生物學原因引起。

對賭博上癮的症狀類似於物質上癮。

兩者都有已經預料的渴望，限度、戒斷症狀，並且會長期復發。

一些研究顯示賭博與神經遞質含于血液中的複合胺和多巴胺在身體內有關係。

心理輔導是治療病態賭博的通用方法。

許多賭徒認為賭博帶來的後果的是可以克制的。

治療首先要從克服不合理的想法開始——對於大多數的賭場賭博來說，

勝利是與運氣有關，並不靠能技巧取勝。

同時病人必須理解運氣不是他們所能控制的。

治療目標是恢復病人的正常思路，類似于如何幫助病人解決沮喪或酒精中毒問題。

除非遇到嚴重情況，藥物療法通常是不推薦的。

證據顯示在打牌室和賭場，亞洲賭徒佔有很高一部分人數。

麻省賭場已經明確亞洲人為目標人群。

金神賭場有一個由 25 人組成的亞裔美國人銷售

部門。

銷售部門設法滿足亞裔顧客的需求，在拉斯維加斯及其他地方的賭場是非常普遍的。

對一家在加州的打牌室統計的結果顯示，該打牌室八成的顧客是亞裔。

許多亞洲的文化認為賭博是跟家人和朋友在特定場合的正常社交生活。

此外，亞裔移民之間如果没有語言障礙，賭博很容易就變成其他形式的遊戲。

賭博也能有許多好處，比如豐富長者之間的社交生活。

為了幫助亞裔社區處理賭博問題，麻州賭博問題諮詢會指定黃千姬成為亞裔社區規劃專員。

該組織不僅發起訓練

講座，培養可以說問題人群語言的臨床教師和顧問給需要幫助的人提供特別的治療。

該組織也計畫通過 MBTA 廣告，中文報紙的廣告，以及其他大眾媒體擴大公眾對賭博問題的認知。

通過以下 LIE/BET 調查表就可以簡單地判斷出受測試者是否具有賭博問題。

你曾經對人說謊，賭博對你說來有多重要嗎？

你曾經感覺需要打賭更多錢嗎？

如果受測試者對以上任何一條答案是肯定的話，則需要回答更多問題來確認其是問題賭博還是病態賭博。

麻州賭博問題諮詢會電話號碼是 1-800-426-1234。

華人女聲樂家新年獻藝波城

(本報訊)2008年開春，一月十二日星期六晚間八時，中華表演藝術基金會特別邀請三位屢獲國際大獎的傑出華人女聲樂家於新英格蘭音樂學院喬登廳(Jordan Hall)同台獻唱。

她們是已與芝加哥抒情歌劇院(Chicago Lyric Opera)簽約的花腔女中音楊光、現任北京中央音樂學院附中聲樂部主任被譽為全美最受歡迎的蝴蝶夫人之一的女高音鄧桂萍、及現任臺北藝術大學教授的原住民女高音林惠珍。

楊光出生於北京，是一位國際有名的歌唱家。1996年畢業於北京中央音樂學院歌劇系，之後留校任教。1997年，她成為第一個獲得英國BBC卡迪夫世界歌唱家大獎第一名的中國歌唱家。1998年她以全額獎學金進入紐約朱利亞音樂學院歌劇中心，三年之後拿到藝術家文憑。曾和世界級女中音Marylyn Horne 在紐約卡內基音樂廳同台演出。1999年與英國愛樂樂團演出馬勒聲樂組曲。2000年在英國威爾士國家歌劇院演出羅西尼的歌劇《塞維利亞的理髮師》，同年11月與倫敦交響樂團及著名指揮Sir Colin Davis合作演出歌劇《特洛伊芳人》，2001年楊光在華盛頓獲多明高世界歌劇大賽Operalia第一名，同年又獲臺北第三屆世界華人歌唱比賽大

獎，最佳歌劇詮釋和最佳外國藝術歌曲獎。2002年在華盛頓甘迺迪藝術中心與多明哥作二重唱。同年六月與美國國家交響樂團合作演出《威爾第安魂曲》，從2002年三月起，楊光與芝加哥抒情歌劇院簽約，晉身國際歌劇明星之列。《芝加哥論壇報》形容楊光於「蝴蝶夫人」的演出：「燦爛的中國女中音楊光，她飾演的鈴木有著感人的、華美的聲音，成為整個歌劇的焦點。」

鄧桂萍生於雲南，是唱著民歌長大的，民歌裏有她對生活的全部理解和情感。鄧桂萍一直認為自己就是天生的民歌嗓子，她學唱的最高理想，就是做一個優秀的民歌演員。直至考進了北京中央音樂學院，才展開了學習西洋歌劇的新旅程。她吸收西方歌劇和藝術歌曲，使她對民歌的理解和表現有了更自由的掌握；她在民歌唱法中的體悟，轉為她運用於演唱西洋歌劇的珍貴原素，讓鄧桂萍在世界歌劇舞臺上的演出揉進了中國民歌的唱法技術，使角色韻味別致，在藝術上有獨到的突破。1981年，剛升上大三鄧桂萍被選為中國代表，參加巴黎國際聲樂比賽，獲得榮譽獎。中央音樂學院畢業後，鄧桂萍任中央廣播樂團獨唱演員。1986年以突出的演唱成績獲美國波士頓大學

藝術學院院長獎學金，赴美深造隨Phylis Curtin 學習。

1989年於波士頓大學畢業後，經常在美國洛山機、波士頓、休士頓、聖路易士等十餘所大歌劇院演唱蝴蝶夫人、茶花女、杜蘭朵等西方歌劇擔任劇中的主要角色，被評論家喻為全美最受歡迎的蝴蝶夫人之一。與她合作過的樂團包括波士頓交響樂團、科洛拉多交響樂團等等。近年鄧桂萍在世界各地舉辦了不同風格的個人音樂會、清唱劇音樂會等。她曾多次參加國際聲樂大賽並獲獎，在與加州聖巴巴拉歌劇院成功的合作演出「蝴蝶夫人」後，獲頒該市年度最佳表演獎。又於與內華達演出「繡花女」中主角咪咪，受當地媒體樂評價讚譽為：「劇院成立三十年以來的最佳演出」。

女高音林惠珍在台灣及東南亞的樂壇上是相當活躍的，她是第一位以泰雅族身分踏入聲樂壇的原住民。林惠珍畢業於國立臺灣藝術專科學校音樂科、羅馬S. Cecilia音樂院。曾獲V. Bellini國際聲樂大賽第四獎，G. B. Viotti國際聲樂大賽決賽權。

1992年獲選舊金山歌劇院太平洋之聲臺灣的唯一入選者，赴舊金山歌劇院接受舞臺訓練、觀摩及演出。林惠珍自1989年在紐約的卡內

基Weill Recital Hall音樂中心舉行獨唱會後，開始演唱生涯。演出過東、西方歌劇無數，如「老處女與賊」「杜蘭朵公主」「蝴蝶夫人」「羅蜜歐與茱麗葉」「弄臣」「魔笛」和中國當代創作歌劇如錢南章的「雷雨之夜」；楊耀章和Frank Maus的「萬裏長城」；梁銘越的「九歌」以及馬水龍的「霸王虞姬」；郭芝苑的「許仙與白娘娘」等。她經常與國內外交響樂團演出，曾赴美國、加拿大、哥斯大黎加、拉脫維亞、義大利、韓國、新加坡、澳門、上海等地演唱。

林惠珍富涵技巧與力度的聲音，使得她在每首曲子中的情感表達都遊刃有餘、收放自如。目前為國立臺北藝術大學音樂系專任副教授。

丹堤達特大樓前景未明

(上接第二版)

本來仗著唐人街公園這塊曠地，光線無阻無擋、盡情輻射。

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此外，華人進步會的Lydia Lowe大聲疾呼，要求一個“穩定的唐人街社區”。

她希望唐人街社區能夠以中低收入居民為重，幫助他們免於由房租、物價上漲而流離失所。

自2000年以來，1200多套住房在唐人街陸續建造起來。

這些住房使得唐人街成為新移民的落腳點，或是一些人可承擔得起的居住場所。

Lowe撰寫的“唐人街社區建設計畫之重要

性”抒發了對丹堤達特樓址新建豪華公寓之憂慮。

“唐人街社區建設計畫”最初由1990年發展起來，已成為官方關於發展唐人街的藍圖。

這個“建設計畫”的目標是壯大唐人街的藍領階層及以家庭為主體的社區。

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如有讀者希望了解更多有關與該大樓外觀的情況，可點擊以下網址 gallery.mac.com/daveseeley#gallery查看。

(翻譯：許可可)



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舢舨專訪

教育：中美間的不同

李冬是北京市順義區仁和中學校長。在這次校長間交流，他拜訪了在南波士頓的Monument中學校長強納森畢力。以下是他對中國和美國教育之間差異的看法。

你在中國從事教育工作有多長時間呢？

我當教師已經有22年。

你扮演過什麼樣的角色（老師，校長，督察之類）？

我一開始教生物教了10年。然後，我在學校的中學部擔任行政人員。在2001年，我去了加州富爾頓(Fullerton)國際大學進修工商管理碩士學位。我大約花了18個月拿到文憑。拿到文憑之後，在2003年，我被升為高中副校長。最後，我受聘擔任仁和中學校長一職。

身在教育界，什麼是讓你最開心的呢？

透過學校教育，學生能有一個更好的生活。我其實很喜歡孩子。

當初你到來美國之前，你有某些期待或偏見嗎？

我當初會想學習在教育 and 商業方面的新概念。

一開始當我在洛杉磯2001年時，我以為所有的美國人不是白色就是黑色。

在你訪問美國高中之後，有什麼是讓你最驚訝的？

哦，有很多。像是三所高中共同使用一棟樓。

學生在進入學校大樓之前必須通過安全檢查。低收入階層的家長們沒有很重視自己孩子的教育。

就學生、教學內容、教學方法、學校紀律、學校課程安排和家長的參與，美國高中和中國高中最大的不同在哪裡？

在中國，學生留在自己的教室，而老師會到不同教室上課。在美國是老師留在自己的教室，學生要到不同的教室上課。

在中國，特別是在中學和小學，學生大多回家吃中飯。因此，他們有將近兩小時的午餐休息時間。而在美國是完全不一樣。

至於學習的內容，中國的老師過度強調學術課程，同時容易忽略經驗和創造力。在這方面，我們應該向美國看齊。

在中國，我們的學校一年有兩次親師座談會。

在美國，父母會去學校當他們的孩子惹麻煩。

根據中國的歷史傳統，我的學生們都很認真學習。但由於中國實行一胎化國家人口政策之後，開始有些小轉變。年輕父母往往過分溺愛獨生子女，把孩子寵的像王子或公主。此外，其他像是網路、電視和電動等傷害了年輕的一代。

這些東西，還有一些我没提到的，使學校教育變的很艱難。在某些方面，紀律可以影響學生；但某些方面，紀律是無效的。

不同的教育概念如何影

響學生的行為和表現？

我們鼓勵教師當學生的模範。我們鼓勵學生對他們未來的生活有夢想。我們鼓勵學生努力學習並多多閱讀。我們鼓勵學生要尊重父母、老師、同學，以及陌生人。

美國高中要如何受益中國中學校長的觀點？

通過兩國間校長互相交流，雙方自然會互惠。像這次我可以整整留在波士頓的高中一個星期就非常有助。而這邊的校長們也可以到我的學校參觀一個星期。

有什麼是美國教育工作者要向你學習？

我來美國3次。我會講英語。但有多少美國教育家曾訪問中國，而且能把中文說的很好的？我想問是否有必要到中國進行訪問和學習的中文？這就是我的回答。

你對美國高中學生的志向有什麼印象？你在中國的學生有怎樣的抱負？

這是一個很好和很難回答的問題。我猜想美國高中的孩子比較實際。有些人想當警察、有些人想從軍和而有些人想上大學。而在中國，大部分的高中生都渴望通過全國聯考，進入有名的大學。

你對你的學生有什麼期望？

我希望我的學生有一個開放的態度和更好的生活。

（翻譯：徐瑞玲）



上圖：北京市順義區仁和中學校長李冬在南波士頓 Monument中學與該校足球隊員合影

未雨綢繆：如何選擇退休投資方式

每個人的投資分配有所不同。這取決於投資時間範圍，風險接受程度以及目前的財務狀況。

以下是一些供作參考的普遍想法和意見。

記得退休年金制度401k或其他公司的贊助的退休計劃？

這些退休計劃是為你而設計的！退休年金必須被安全保障，所以即使不再領月薪，你還可以無慮過生活。要盡量避免在某公司的股票選擇中完全單一投資。如果該公司經營極佳，那麼考慮將錢投資在退休帳戶以外的選擇或者是員工認股票購買計劃(ESPP)。

不過如果投資策略過度保守的話，投資不會成長。應避免投資過大比例在貨幣市場基金。如果你打算長期投資，股票市場比現金或貨幣市場基金有利。如果你現在四十歲，那麼在今後的二十年裏如果你要從退休帳戶裏取錢

的話，是需要付一定的罰款的，然而三十年後你的帳戶才開始強制性取款。如果你只取規定中最少的款，便可以在四十年以後才將大額款項取出！

生命週期基金是基金的資金。這種類型的基金包括很多不同的資金分配，以達到預期的目標。生命週期基金通常有幾種不同的選擇。

目標不同，選擇也會不同。有可能是保守選擇，中庸選擇或積極選擇。

生命週期基金可設定不同的目標日期。根據退休日期來配合週期基金的目標日期。一般來說，生命週期基金比較適合偏好簡單，有限選擇及金額較小的投資者。

開始時，應盡量避免過度的關注股市的起起伏伏。報紙或廣播往往誇大股市動向。

投資者要避免過度聆聽這類消息和倉促的買進賣出。

退休帳戶不應被看作

為一個交易帳戶或賭博帳戶。退休帳戶是為長遠目標而設計的分配投資。應該定期瞭解帳戶情況而不須要辦理買賣。

如果還不太有把握，或想要進一步的資訊，可以請教財務顧問。

經核證的財務規專業人員可以幫助你分配你公司的退休計劃。

如果你有任何疑問或特別專題想要我們在舢舨進一步討論，歡迎來電子郵件。

Michael Tow是註冊財政策劃師，也是“新波士頓財政”公司的總裁。他同時還是“大眾財政網”(Finra/SIPC公司的下屬成員公司)的代表之一。Tow的電話為：617-734-4400，網站查詢：newbostonfinancial.com

（翻譯：徐瑞玲）

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【本報記者羅克斯波士頓報導】麻省Saugus的金豐大酒店在2006年年中開業，是業主Li Ling Lam和Ming Lam夫婦最新的一家餐廳，餐廳雇員中的大多數都是新移民。

然而開業不久後，雇員們對老闆的投訴紛至沓來。

這家餐廳要求服務生上繳小費，小費上繳後會由餐廳平均分發下去。

這樣的做法並非有悖法律條文，本無不妥。問題是這家餐廳在對小費進行下發的過程中，那些非服務生的工作人員也人有一份，由此大大減少了服務生應得的酬勞。

這些服務生每小時工資僅2.6美元，是法律規定中允許的最低工資水準。

之所以法律規定允許這樣低的小時工資是因為

小費收入較為優厚，可以來作為這些服務生的工資補差。

然而，他們的小費卻用來給餐廳的非服務生髮工資，甚至包括臨時工，從而使得服務生沒有得到應得的收入。

更甚的是，憤怒的雇員指責老闆將小費的一部分扣留私用，或者用於再投資他們的餐館業務。

據提起控訴的雇員揭發，老闆夫婦二人曾私留高達三分之一的小費。

此外，法律規定，雇主必須允許雇員工間休息。然而，在金豐，雇員基本沒有工間休息。如果要享用工間休息，這段時間就會被標在薪水表上並且會被扣掉工錢。即便是不享用工間休息，老

闆也會“安排一些工間休息”以便扣掉雇員的一些工錢。

老闆這樣做的用意另一方面可能也是敷衍政府“工間休息”的規定：雇員如果享受了工間休息，老闆就在薪水表上做個記號，看起來好像餐廳的確給予雇員工間休息的權力，因為“你看，他們的確是有休息了麼，這裏都有記號做證據”。

分幫結派？

金豐的雇員們還控訴老闆暗搞分幫結派，造成雇員內部矛盾重重，以此掩蓋他們自己管理上的黑洞。

例如，老闆在福建籍雇員和廣東籍雇員之間製造是非。

小費問題出露端倪時，雇員 Wan Yin Chen 舉報說老闆對廣東籍雇員講他們的小費被福建籍雇員們爭奪走了。

另外，雇員們也反映老闆違反工資法。每遇大型宴會有臨時工幫忙時，服務生們沒有得到應得的小費，他們的小費一部分卻被用來給臨時工發放薪水。

發生在這些中國餐廳雇員身上的不公平待遇，以前也在南美移民身上發生過。

劣跡重重

Saugus 金豐並不是第一家與Lam老闆發生待遇糾紛的餐廳。

Lam老闆在紐約也有一家金豐大酒店，同樣也

是紐約唐人街最大的一家中餐廳。

據紐約時報報導，這家餐廳有可能還是全紐約州最大的餐廳。

1997年Lam老闆遭遇第一場法律訴訟，原由是違反最低工資法，並且沒有給雇員支付加班費。

這起訴訟源於1995年政府的一項關於雇工的調查，隨之發現了該餐廳的雇傭非法移民、非法成立保安隊及雇員內訌等問題。

這場訴訟最終以Lam老闆以110萬支付58位勞工收尾，老闆同時保證遵守勞工法。

然而，2006年4月，Lam老闆的紐約金豐再次出現了雇工問題。該酒店的6名雇員聯名向聯邦法院上訴Lam老闆違反最低工資法。

2006年的紐約控訴與這次Saugus的控訴極為類似：6名紐約金豐雇員控告Lam老闆挪用他們及其他近50名雇員的小費來支付負責流動點心車女工的工資。儘管小費再分配的做法並非違規，然而指望靠小費彌補工資差的雇員沒有得到小費，那些有著正常收入的雇員卻通過小費的二次分配得到了小費，這一點卻是法律不允許的。

Lam老闆對《時代週刊》講他在紐約的做法完全合法，支取小費總額35%的具體做法可能看起來有些不妥，但是並沒有違背州法中關於舉行大型晚宴時雇主可支取一定小

費收入的規定。

社區的支持

Saugus金豐大酒店雇員們的遭遇博得了大眾的廣泛支持，就連麻省當地的學生們也發起了抵制金豐大酒店的倡議和行動。

Josiah Quincy中學的學生們本來安排有參觀中國傳統家居裝置展覽。該參觀活動是漢語課程的學習內容之一。

老師們原計劃參觀結束後帶學生們去寬敞的、可容納一千人的金豐酒店會餐。聽聞金豐雇員控訴老闆一事後，老師們決定讓學生們來做去與不去的最終決定。

結果是不但學生們一致決定不去金豐會餐，另有100名學生致信Lam老闆，要求其悔過自新，否則他們就永不去金豐用餐。

學校的Sarah Chang老師說她被學生們的行為深深感動了，“學生們明辨是非、團結對外，這與許多學生的父母都在餐廳工作有關。學生們對雇員深表理解與同情”。

學生們給Lam老闆的信詞句堅定、鏗鏘有力，令受壓迫者讀後備受鼓舞。

下面是其中一位學生的來信：

“尊敬的Lam先生：我們都聽說了您沒有支付雇員應得費用的做法。這種做法使您的雇員處境窘迫，並且這樣的做法殘酷無情，我要求您停止這種行為，尊待雇員，否則，我會勸告全世界拒絕在京豐用餐。”（翻譯：許可可）



金豐大酒店的雇員對其雇主提出了法律訴訟，要求對他們應得而未得的報酬以及損失進行賠償。

【本報記者羅克斯波士頓報導】丹堤達特大樓的前景令人牽腸掛肚。

該樓位於Kingston街120號，已由Ori Ron收入囊中，現歸屬他手下的北美哈德森集團公司。Ron打算在該樓的樓址上新建一幢27層高的豪華公寓。

最早關於丹堤達特大樓的爭議是該樓是否應按歷史古跡的標準受到保護。一輪輪審核下來後，結論是丹堤達特大樓已經沒什麼保留價值了。

Ron營建豪華公寓的計畫倒是也在唐人街社區裏廣受支持，支持者中還有唐人街社區委員會。

丹堤達特大樓前景未明 工作小組新主張; 穩定周邊最重要

然而，儘管Ron本人與唐人街各個團體關係密切，社區反對拆毀丹堤達特大樓的聲音不絕於耳。

Ron的工程計畫裏還包括將隨豪華公寓一起建設的47套平價住房，這兩個專案的設計方案再三更改，反映出大眾的關心與要求。

11月28日，“市長中央幹道工作小組”下發了一份小組成員意見書。

意見書對工程設計中的修修改改作了總結，例如，公寓大樓在原設計方案中是四個周平面，方方正正自為一體，視覺上給

人感覺該樓敦敦實實，很搶眼，使得近旁的公共花園看起來矮小不濟。

在修改方案中，大樓改為四個周曲面，拉進了大樓與公園的視覺親近感。

意見書還提及了來自周邊百姓和社區的眾多意見與建議。

關於大樓的眾多反對呼聲中，最要命的恐怕就是大樓的摩天高度。

“如果把大樓頂部的器械設施等算在內，樓體總高320英尺，比地區規定中的100英尺高出三倍，比唐人街另一側波

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大樓近旁就是綠道公園，樓建得這麼高會鼓勵綠道公園附近其他的樓房越建越高，我們不認為這是建樓的本意，這樣的高度設計也不應該被批准通過”。

此外，就連該專案的附帶工程——48套平價公寓的高度也超出標準的30%。

另一個關於大樓的摩天高度帶來的負面影響是這樣的高度會阻擋光線。

（下轉第四版）

二 舢舨

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